decision taken in November, 1986, to implement the project as a joint venture of the Government of India and the Government of Uttar Pradesh. The Tehri Dam Project is to be completed as scheduled, by June 1997.

**Shortage of power in northern States**

632. SHRI P. N. SUKUL:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Northern States in the country as well as Delhi, ex perienced se ere power shortage in recent weeks;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for such shortages; and

(c) what steps are being taken to improve the power supplly position in the region ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN) :(a) and (b) The Statewise details of the power shortage in theNorthern Region,including Delhi during the period April, 1989 to February, 1990 arc given in Statement.

Due to severe cold conditions and failure of rains, the demand for power had increased substantially in the Northern Region during the last Winter season. This necessitated load shedding during Peak hours to contain the demand within the availability.

(c) A number of measures have been taken to ensure adequate availability of power in this Northern Region. These inclnda expedjng commissioning of new generating capacities, implementation of short gestation Projects, improving the performance of cxistingpowcr stations reducing transmission and distribution losses, implementation of demand management and energy conservation measures, arranging transfer of energy from surplus to deficit areas, intensive monitoring of the grid operations and coordination of power supply position in. the region, etc.

**Statement**

*Power shortage in the Nortiiern Region*

(April, 1989—February, 1990)

| State/UTs | Shortage (%) |
|---|---|
| 1. Delhi | 16 |
| 2. Haryana .... | 5-3 |
| 3. Jammu and Kashmir . | 12-1 |
| 4. Punjab including NFF" | 9.4 |
| 5. Rajasthan | 3-0 |
| 6. Uttar Pradesh . | **10.6** |
| 7. Himachal Pradesh | Nil. |
| 8. Chandigarh | **Nit** |

Flaring of gas in Bombay High

633. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:
SHRT PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether natural gas worth crores of rupees is being burnt in Bombay High because of inadequate distributuon system;

(b) if so, in which manner Government propose to utilise this gas;

(c) whether there is any plan to carry this gas to the Southern States; if s o, what are the outlines thereof; and

(d) whether Government propose to provide 'comprehensive gas sup ply to Delhi, Bombay and other metropolitan cities to ensure comfortable LPG supply in these cities

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b) At present about 144 million cubic metres per day of natural gas is being flared in the Western Offshore fields. Additional facilities for evacuation and compression are proposed to be set up so that the gas can be brought on shore and supplied to consumers.

(c) An inter-ministerial committees is bcinS" appointed to examine the various issues pertaining to establishment of a Southern Gas Grid.

(d) The Gas Authority of India have proposed a project for supply of natural gas to domestic consumers as also industrial and commercial consumers in Bombay. The proposal is under consideration of the Government. The feasibility of supplying natural gas in Delhi is also being studied.

**Development of industrial backward districts in Orissa**

634. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 544 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 24th July, 1989 and to state :

(a) what are the proposals with the Central Government for development of the industrially backward districts in Orissa;

(b) whether any scheme has been drawn up in this regard; and

(c) if so, what arc the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) to (c) The industrialisation of a State is primarily the responsibility of the State Government concerned. However, in order to promote industrialisation and reduce regional imbalances, the Cential Government offers a number of incentives such as priority in the grant of industrial licences concessional finance, exes mption from income tax etc. to entrepreneurs setting up unit? in centrally declared backward areas.
In the case of Orissa, a total of 8 backward districts arc eligible for such concessions, in addition, the Central Government has also sanctioned 3 growth centres to Orissa under the 'No Industry District' Infrastructural Development Scheme, which arc under various stages of implementation. Grotwh centres are also proposed to be established in Orissa under the new Growth Centre Scheme,

**Setting up of industries in the 'No Industy Districtrs' at Orissa**

635. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state

(a) how many 'No Industry Districts' are there in the the country ;

(b) whether there arc some such districts in Orissa also

(c) if so, what are their names ; and

(d) what steps have been taken to set up industries in those 'No Industry Districts'?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) 93 districts have been identified as 'No Industry Districts'.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir, Baiasore, Bolangir and Phulbani are the three 'No Industry Districts' in the State of Orissa.

(d) Industrialisation of speeific districts/areas is primarily the responsiblility of the State Govern ment/Union Territory concrmeo; The Central Government supple ments their efforts by providing

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